

February 21, 1991 LB 404

not going to support the amendment. I will probably support the return to Select File so that the amendment is before us, but I will not vote for the amendment. I will be very interested in hearing the arguments against it other than the ones that I guess I...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...have just made. But the issue for my purposes was one that needed to be dealt with in terms of the vote of the people last November. That's why I brought in LB 404. That's why I asked that the issue be expedited before this body and that's why it is up on Final Reading on February 21 in a long session.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. I'll now recognize Senator Hefner followed by Senator Wehrbein, Abboud and Lamb. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, this is an interesting amendment and, Senator Will and Senator Lynch, I probably should be supporting it, but I don't think I can. I should be supporting it because I own a home and I don't own any farmland. But I know where you're coming from and, like I said, it's an interesting amendment. But I guess my question is, Senator Will, you're on the Revenue Committee. I'm surprised that you didn't offer it during our committee Exec Session but you didn't, so...but I think what we're trying to do with LB 404 is carrying out the will of the people and that is when the people voted that we could value ag land differently than other property, well, we should just be addressing the ag land problem. And the reason that Senator Hall introduced LB 404, as I understand it, was that if we freeze the values for one year it will give us a little more time to work on which way we want to go in valuing the farmland. I think we have three other bills before us. One says that we will value ag land at 75 percent of value, of the market value and another one 80 percent and then another bill with earning capacity, and it's going to take us a little time to work through this. And as I understand it, the county assessors need to know for sure which way we're going because they will be sending out these notices around the first of April. So I'm not going to vote to return this bill to Select File to add this amendment on because I just think we need a little more time to work with it and this is the freezing of agriculture land values is for one year only. So